

sented, the fatherhood in ancient time were
 those whom we
 call Bishops, and still we call them reverend
 fathers, an ancient
 and free part of our State 87 aldermen were
 meant your
 noblemen , for so honourable was the word
 alderman in ancient
 time that the nobility only were called aldermen
 By wisest
 commons is signified your knights and burgesses,
 and so is your
 Majesty's writ *De discretionibus et magis*
sufficientibus By
 godhest men is meant your Convocation House, it
 consisteth of
 such as are devoted to religion and as godhest men
 consult of
 weightiest matters , so is your Highness writ at
 this day *Pro*
qmbusdam arduis et urgentissims negotus nos,
statum et defensionem
regni nostn et ecclesi&e tangentibus Your
 Highness's wisdom and
 exceeding judgment with all careful providence
 needeth not our
 counsels, yet so urgent causes there were of this
 Parliament, so
 importunate considerations as that we may say
 (for we cannot
 judge) if ever Parliament was so needful as now or
 ever so
 honourable as this

^c If I may be bold to say it, I must presume to say
 that which
 hath been often said, but what is well said cannot
 be too often
 spoken, this secret counsel of ours I would
 compare to that
 sweet Commonwealth of the little bees, *Sic emm*
farm *com-*
ponere magna solebam The little bees have but
 one governor
 whom they all serve , he is their king *Quia latrea*
babet latiora,
 he is placed in the midst of their habitations *ut ^n*
tutissima turn,,
 they forage abroad sucking honey from every
 flower to bring to
 their king *ignavumfucos pecus a pnncipibus*
arcent^ the drones
 they dnve out of their hives *non habentes aculeos >*
 and whoso
 assails their king in him *imimttunt aculeos et*
tamen rex ipse est
sine aculeo

⁶ Your Majesty is that Princely Governor and
noble Queen
whom we all serve , being protected under the
shadow of your
wings we live , and wish you may ever sit upon
your throne over
us, and whosoever shall not say Amen, for them
we pray *ut*
convertantur ne pereant et ut confundantur ne
noceant Under
your happy government we live upon honey, we
suck upon every
sweet flower , but where the bee sucketh honey,
there also the
spider draweth poison Some such there be , but
such drones
and door bees we will expel the hive and serve your
Majesty, and
withstand any enemy that shall assault your own
lands or goods